



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

April 6, 2015

Mr. Malcolm Charles
Directorate of Public Works
Attn: SDAT-CCA-MI (Charles)
410 Norman Avenue
Concord, California 94520

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Modernization and Repair of Piers 2 and 3,
Military Ocean Terminal Concord (MOTCO), Concord, California (CEQ # 20150050)

Dear Mr. Charles:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

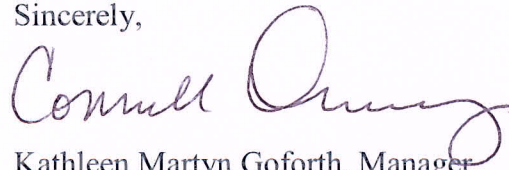
EPA reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and provided comments to the U.S. Army on January 6, 2014. We rated the DEIS as Environmental Concerns - Insufficient Information (EC-2) due to potential impacts from unexploded ordnance during pier construction and the need for further explanation for how these impacts will be avoided. We also provided recommendations regarding noise impacts, air quality, recreational resources, and measures to prevent pollution during pier operations.

We appreciate the additional information included in the Final EIS that is responsive to EPA comments regarding unexploded ordnance. In addition, we commend the Army for including additional mitigation measures for noise impacts anticipated during the construction phase. Our January 6, 2014 comment letter recommended outreach to the community and identification of a mechanism for submittal of noise complaints. The FEIS indicates that the Army would provide advance notification to the community before commencing the noisiest phases of construction, or before construction that would occur on a weekend or holiday. While the Army would log and respond to noise complaints using standard DoD protocol, it is not clear whether the community outreach would provide information on how to lodge a noise complaint. We continue to recommend that this process be clarified during community outreach.

We also appreciate the addition of construction-phase air quality mitigation measures, and the requirement to include such measures in construction contracts. Finally, the Army included EPA recommendations to work with the National Park Service to maintain access to the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial during the 69-week construction phase. This will reduce potential impacts to recreational resources.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to review this FEIS. If you have any questions, please contact me at 415-972-3521, or contact Karen Vitulano, the lead reviewer for this project, at 415-947-4178 or vitulano.karen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Connell O'neill", is written over the printed name.

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Section